

REMARKS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the opportunity for an interview. Examiner and Applicant discussed the cited references and the application in issue. Applicant submits the following amendment and response after serious consideration of the interview.

Applicants have carefully considered the positions of the Examiner, and respectfully request reconsideration of the submitted claims. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 17, 22 and 25. Claims 1-8 and 13-26 are presented for further examination.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 13-20, 22, and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by North et al. US. Patent No. 6,505,245 ("North"). The Examiner then rejected Claims 2-8, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over North as applied to Claim 1 and further in view of Srinivasan et al. US. Patent Application Pub. No. 2004/014835 ("Srinivasan").

Applicant has amended Claims 1, 17, 22 and 25 to clarify Applicant's invention. In particular, Applicant notes that North states "it should be readily appreciated that a management system which eliminates the need of installing a management agent at each manageable device to be managed by the management system would be desirable." Applicant uses physically separate, unitary computer interface units that are coupled to each of the remote computer devices. The physically separate, unitary computer interface units each have signaling circuitry that can generate a noticeable signal at the coupled remote computer and at the user interface. This is distinct from North. Therefore, Applicants submit that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 13-20, 22, and 24 in view of North should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application as claimed in Claims 1-8 and 13-26 represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.

Correspondence and Fees

No fees are believed to be necessitated by the instant response. However, should this be in error, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 03-3839 for any underpayment, or to credit any overpayments.

Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. Telephone calls should be made to Abhik A. Huq at (215) 446-6268 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at 215-446-6309.

Respectfully submitted,

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